

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 031112Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2585

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T LUSAKA 0013

EXDIS

FOR ASST SECY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR AO ZA GY

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: POSSIBLE MEETING IN NEW YORK BETWEEN ROGERS
AND GUYANESE FONMIN WILLS

REF: STATE 001357

1. SUCCEEDED IN CONTACTING GUYANESE FONMIN WILLS AT HIS HOTEL JAN 3 A FEW HOURS BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR "WEST COAST OF AFRICA", LONDON AND NEW YORK, TO PASS YOUR MESSAGE ON PROPOSED MEETING IN NEW YORK. HE RECEPTIVE TO IDEA AND PLANS ADVISE GUYANESE AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON JAN 6 WHEN HE TRANSITS LONDON PROPOSING DATE AND HOUR FOR MEETING JAN 7, 8 OR 9 IN NEW YORK. PREFERS NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON AS HE HAS BUSINESS THERE.

2. REPORT ON MY FIRST MEETING WITH WILLS NEW YEARS DAY CONTAINED LUSAKA'S 0004 (LIMDIS). ALTHOUGH NOT REPORTED THEREIN, WE DID DISCUSS REFUELING STOP D GUYANA FOR CUBAN PLANES CARRYING PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT FOR ANGOLA. WILLS GAVE ME IDENTICAL INFORMATION TO THAT CONTAINED IN GEORGETOWN'S 2193 BASED ON KREBS/WILLS CONVERSATION DEC 24. WILLS INSISTED TO ME--AS HE SAID HE HAD TO AMB KREBS--THAT GUYANA HAD DONE ITS BEST TO SATISFY ITSELF THAT HAVANA WAS NOT RPT NOT CARRYING PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT

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FOR ANGOLA BUT THAT IF USG COULD TURN UP SUCH EVIDENCE,

GUYANA WOULD PROMPTLY INVESTIGATE.

3. REFUELING SUBJECT DID NOT ARISE IN MY CONVERSATION WITH WILLS TODAY AS HE WAS ANXIOUS TO TELL ME ABOUT IMPRESSIONS OF HIS ZAMBIAN VISIT. HE SAID ZAMBIANS HAD GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO PLAY UP VISIT, INSISTING HE GO ON TV ARRANGING FOR SPEECHES AT A RECEPTION GUYANESE HIGH COMMISSIONER GAVE AT LOCAL HOTEL, BEING SURE FONMIN BANDA WAS PRESENT, SETTING UP APPOINTMENT FOR WILLS TO SEE ANC RHODESIAN LEADER NKOMO IN LUSAKA, ALSO ZAMBIAN PRIMIN MUDENDA, NONE OF WHICH REQUESTED. WILLS CONCLUDED ZAMBIANS WANTED TO SHOW THEY HAD FRIENDS AND SUPPORT FOR THEIR OAU POLICY.

4. HOWEVER, WILLS SAID GUYANA'S PRESENT POLICY IS TO POSTPONE ANY DECISION ON WHAT TO DO WITH ANGOLA UNTIL AFTER OAU SUMMIT. SAID HE HAD CONVINCED DIEHARDS IN GUYANA'S CABINET EVEN THOUGH PM BURNHAM NOT COMPLETELY CONVINCED BECAUSE OF STRONG LEFTIST CURRENT IN PARTY. WILLS SAID HE STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED VISITING TANZANIA WHICH MIGHT HAVE GIVEN CAUSE TO TIP SCALES IN GUYANA TOWARD THOSE FAVORING MPLA.

5. WILLS SAYS HE PERSONALLY FAVORS GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY EVEN THOUGH PRO-MPLA PRESSURES ARE STRONG ON GUYANA FROM SOVIETS AND EASTERN BLOC (WILLS INTERRUPTED HIS MEETING WITH CZECH AMB TO TALK WITH ME). SAID PRESSURE FOR MPLA RECOGNITION AT CUBAN COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING WERE EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG BUT HE RESISTED AND COKSELED GUYANESE CABINET TO LET HIM FIRST HEAR WHAT PRES KAUNDA HAD TO SAY. WILLS CONTENTED THAT PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA DOES NOT RPT NOT HELP HIS POSITION; WHILE HE UNDERSTANDS SAG PRESENCE (AS REPORTED LUSAKA'S 0004), HE CANNOT ACCEPT IT.

6. COMMENT: STATE HOUSE SOURCE TOLD ME KAUNDA HAD PUT PRESSURE ON FM WILLS DURING THEIR CONVERSATION TO CEASE GIVING SUPPORT TO CUBANS THROUGH REFUELING STOP. WILLS REPORTEDLY TOLD ZAMBIANS GUYANA WAS NOT RPT NOT FUELING CUBAN AIRCRAFT
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DESTINED DIRECTLY FOR ANGOLA, WERE CHECKING NATURE OF PASSENGERS AND CARGO DESTINED FOR CONAKRY, AND MIGHT EVEN TEMPORARILY SUSPEND REFUELING PENDING OUTCOME OF OAU GKETING. GENERAL IMPRESSION IS WILLS GAVE NO CLEAR CUT ASSURANCES TO ZAMBIANS. SAME SOURCE ALSO SAID WILLS TOLD ZAMBIANS HE PLANS TO VISIT KINSHASA AND LUANDA EN ROUTE LONDON AND NEW YORK.
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PLANNING MEETINGS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LUSAKA00013
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760002-0078
From: LUSAKA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaadalj.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 1357
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA: POSSIBLE MEETING IN NEW YORK BETWEEN ROGERS AND GUYANESE FONMIN WILLS
TAGS: PFOR, AO, ZA, GY, (WILLS, FRED), (ROGERS, WILLIAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006